

We claim:

1. A method of improving the viscosity stability of an aqueous coating composition upon the addition of an aqueous tinting composition, comprising the steps of:

a) providing an aqueous base paint comprising:

- i) at least one polymer binder,
- iii) at least one rheology modifier; and

b) adding to said aqueous base paint, said aqueous tinting composition comprising:

- i) at least one pigment; and
- ii) at least one select dispersing resin having a Hansch parameter in the range of 2.1 to 6 and an acid number in the range of 65 to 150.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said select dispersing resin has a weight average molecular weight in the range of 15,000 to 40,000.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said select dispersing resin is prepared by emulsion polymerization.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said rheology modifier is an associative thickener.

5. The method according to claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein said aqueous tinting composition further comprises at least one macromolecular compound having a hydrophobic cavity.

6. The method according to claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein said aqueous tinting composition comprises from 0 to 5 weight % surfactant.

7. An aqueous tinting composition comprising:

- a) from 2 to 70 weight % of at least one pigment; and

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b) from 0.1 to 40 weight % of at least one select dispersing resin having a Hansch parameter in the range of 2.1 to 6 and an acid number in the range of 65 to 150; based on the weight of said aqueous tinting composition.

8. The aqueous tinting composition according to claim 7 wherein said select dispersing resin has a weight average molecular weight in the range of 15,000 to 40,000.

9. The aqueous tinting composition according to claim 7 wherein said select dispersing resin is prepared by emulsion polymerization.

10. The aqueous tinting composition according to claim 7, 8, or 9 comprising a total level of volatile organic compounds in the range of 0 to 10 weight %, based on the weight of said aqueous tinting composition.

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